



ABSTRACT

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An ultrasonic motor includes a stator, a rotor facing the stator, and a piezoelectric element for vibrating the stator to rotate the rotor. The stator includes a disk-like diaphragm. Radially extending teeth, the number of which is odd, are formed on the diaphragm. A radial slit is defined by each pair of adjacent teeth such that the slit opens to both axial sides of the diaphragm. The slits, the number of which is odd, are spaced apart at equal angular intervals. One of the slits and one of the teeth are angularly separated by one hundred and eighty degrees and are aligned with a diametric line. In other words, no diametric line is aligned with two slits. This structure improves the strength of the diaphragm. As a result, the reliability of the motor is improved.

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